

Message From the Acting Regional Administrator

It's an exciting time for all of us here in Region 6. Change is upon us. We kicked off the week by congratulating Anne in her new job in our Washington DC office. I promise to do my best as acting Regional Administrator and am very pleased Erin will be by my side. Next week Deputy Administrator Henry Darwin will join us for the Regional Tribal Operations Committee meeting and our monthly ELMS walk-through in the Dallas office. Of course, we cannot forget the upcoming regional alignment. I am very pleased with the good progress that we are making to build out our entire leadership team and there continues to be lots of opportunities for everyone. We have also received our operating budget and plans are well underway for our move to the Renaissance Building in late May and early June. Our future is bright and outlook for our success is positive. It's going to be a great year. Thank you for everything that you do.

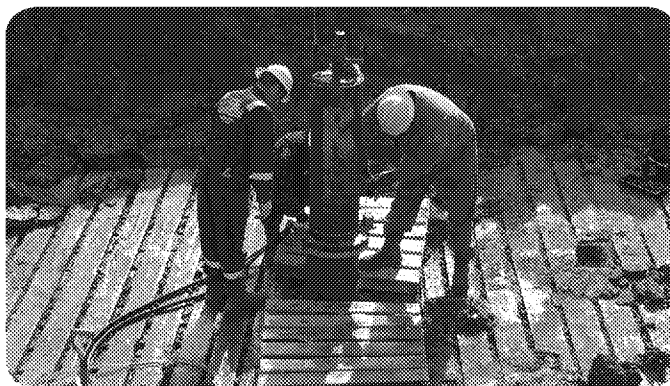
Thank You, Anne



CLICK TO PLAY >>>>

It is with mixed emotions we say goodbye to our Regional Administrator Anne Idsal, who has been at the helm in Region 6 for the last 15 months. We are sad to see her leave us, but we are excited she will now be the Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation. Her area of influence will grow at EPA and we will cheer her on from afar. This short video captures the many sides of being a Regional Administrator. Thank you to Anne for being a great leader for Region 6! Good luck in your new endeavors!

EPA Starts Plugging Process in Louisiana



Workers plugging the well in Bunkie, Louisiana.

On March 25, 2019, OSC Mike McAteer mobilized to the W.A. Moncrief well site in Bunkie, Louisiana to begin a plugging abandonment (P &A) process. The 17,000 foot well is located in a sugarcane field and continued to leak after the previous lease owner plugged it. There is a threat to Waters of the US, and the P&A of the well is a priority for the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources. Due to the complexity of the well, the P & A activities are expected to take a minimum of four weeks.

Regional Science Council Kicks off 2019 Summer Seminar Series



Dr. Sala Senkayi presents the work she has done with the U.S. Embassy Fellowship Program.

During the week of March 15, the Regional Science Council (RSC) kicked its 2019 Seminar Series. Dr. Sala N. Senkayi gave a presentation on her work with the U.S. Embassy Science Fellowship Program. Her project focused on visualizing Ugandan Environmental Data using apps. Contact Magdeleine Dallemagne or Michael Morton to learn more about the Regional Science Program.

Work Continues on EPA Response to Deer Park Plant Fire



Matt Loesel, Janie Acevedo, and Carmen Assunto receive a briefing update from EPA Incident Commander Adam Adams at the Pasadena Unified Command Post in response to ITC Fire.

Women's Special Emphasis Program Hosts TED Talk



Diana Lundelius kicks things off during the TED talk.

On Wednesday March 27, 2019, the Federal Women's Special Emphasis Program (FWP) sponsored a TED (technology, entertainment and design) Talk viewing and interactive round table discussion. Diana Lundelius, the R6 FWP special emphasis program manager, hosted and facilitated the event. Attendees viewed a TED talk video interview of former US Secretary of State Madeline Albright on the topic of "Being a Woman and a Diplomat." She emphasized that women's issues should have a central role in foreign policy. After the video, there was a round table discussion of ideas and concepts from the TED talk relevant to women's issues at EPA. The 2019 FWP theme is "Visionary Women: Champions of Peace and Nonviolence," showcasing women who have worked to resolve conflict without violence. The event was part of the month-long celebration of Women's History Month during March. In addition to the March 27 event, a previous TED talk and round table discussion was held on March 14, and a women's power lunch at El Fenix on March 21.

New Building Preparation

Renaissance Tower has had some great steps forward the past few weeks with regard to IT infrastructure. The server room has had the router and modem installed which will enable our current server room and the new one to communicate. In the next week or so, EPA will configure switches on the individual floors that will allow us to move the new servers to Renaissance Tower.



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